

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 172372
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TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY BONN
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S E C R E T STATE 172372

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TU, GR, CY

SUBJECT: DISCUSSIONS DURING SCHMIDT VISIT ON EASTERN
MEDITERRANEAN

1. IN JULY 13 MEETING WITH FRG FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER,
SECRETARY ASKED FOR GERMAN THINKING ON SITUATION IN TURKEY,
GREECE AND CYPRUS. GENSCHER SAID HE PLANNED TO GO TO ATHENS
IN MID-AUGUST. HE RECALLED THAT FRG HAD CLOSE TIES WITH
TURKEY AND EXPRESSED REGRET THAT ECEVIT GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN
DEFEATED. GENSCHER THOUGHT THAT CYPRUS PROBLEM COULD NOT
EASILY BE SETTLED. HE EXPRESSED VIEW THAT CONSTITUTIONAL
QUESTION COULD CAUSE MUCH GREATER DIFFICULTY THAN TERRITORY.

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2. SECRETARY THOUGHT THAT GREEK CYPRIOTS WERE PREPARED TO
COMPROMISE ON BOTH TERRITORY AND CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS;
HE EXPRESSED DOUBT, HOWEVER, THAT THEY WOULD BE PREPARED TO
BE AS FLEXIBLE WITH DEMIREL COALITION AS THEY WOULD HAVE
WITH ECEVIT OR RPP-JP GRAND COALITION.

3. IN RESPONSE TO GENSCHER QUESTION, SECRETARY SAID NO DECISION HAD BEEN TAKEN ON POSSIBLE SECOND CLIFFORD MISSION TO EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN; WE WOULD WANT TO WAIT UNTIL WE SAW WHAT NEW GOVERNMENT IN ANKARA LOOKED LIKE. HE POINTED OUT THAT DIFFICULT ECONOMIC PROBLEMS FACED TURKEY IN IMMEDIATE

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FUTURE, THAT TURKEY WAS PRACTICALLY BANKRUPT, AND APPEARED HEADED FOR REAL FINANCIAL CRUNCH. IN LONG RUN, TURKEY'S ECONOMIC PROSPECTS SEEMED FAIRLY GOOD BUT THERE WERE REAL SHORT AND MEDIUM TERM PROBLEMS. SECRETARY AND GENSCHER AGREED TO STAY IN TOUCH BUT NOTED THAT UNTIL NEW GOVERNMENT WAS IN PLACE IN TURKEY MEASURES COULD NOT BE TAKEN TO IMPROVE THE ECONOMIC SITUATION NOR COULD TURKS TALK WITH IMF. GENSCHER MENTIONED POSSIBILITY OF USING OECD CONSORTIUM FOR TURKEY; SECRETARY AGREED THAT THIS WAS A POSSIBILITY.

4. TURKEY AND OTHER EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN ISSUES WERE ALSO DISCUSSED ALONG SAME GENERAL LINES IN MEETINGS BETWEEN PRESIDENT AND CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT; NO DISCUSSION OF TURKEY OCCURRED IN SCHMIDT'S MEETING WITH TREASURY SECRETARY BLUMENTHAL. VANCE

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